Filing Date: December 19, 2000

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING PREDEFINED FEEDBACK

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1.-94. (Cancelled)
- 95. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

presenting predefined feedback comments to a first user in response to an online payment transaction between the first user and a second user and at the request of the first user and wherein the predefined feedback comments are presented in a feedback forum;

receiving a selection for one of the predefined feedback comments from the first user, wherein the selection represents feedback that the first user is supplying and that is to be associated with the second user with respect to the online payment transaction; and

retaining an association of the first user, the online payment transaction, the selection, and the second user, and wherein the second user can request and leave additional feedback comments about the first user in response to the selection made by the first user.

- 96. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 95 further comprising, receiving a free-form comment from the first user to be associated with the selection and retained with the association.
- 97. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 96 further comprising, removing the freeform comment from the association and prevent the free-form comment from being retained when the free-form comment is determined to be against a policy.
- 98. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 95 wherein retaining further includes keeping a first identifier for the first user, a second identifier for the second user, a transaction number for the online payment transaction, and a feedback identifier for the selection as an entry in a table associated with the second user.

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- 99. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 95 further comprising, providing the selection to a requestor associated with a different online payment transaction.
- 100. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 95 further comprising, receiving and retaining with the association a response comment from the second user that the second user supplies in response to the selection made by the first user with respect to the second user.
- 101. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 95 further comprising, presenting the selection within an online auction facility when an identifier associated with the second user is presented.
- 102. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

providing predefined feedback comments to users of an online payment transaction facility within a feedback forum and at the requests of the users;

retaining selections made from the predefined feedback comments by users, wherein each selection is related to a specific first user that is a buyer, a specific second user that is a seller, and a specific transaction associated that the specific first user and the specific second user engaged in with one another; and

determining when selections can include free-form comments from the users in addition to the predefined feedback comments, and wherein the specific second user can leave a response feedback comment in response to the predefined comments left by the first user.

- 103. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further comprising, supplying a specific selection to a requesting user, wherein a request for the specific selection identifies at least one of a specific one of the users and a specific online payment transaction.
- 104. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 wherein determining further includes, deciding not to permit free-form comments when to do so would be against a policy associated with one of the users involved in a specific online payment transaction.

- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 wherein retaining further includes 105. keeping with each selection a response comment from the buyer or the seller involved in the specific transaction, wherein the response comment is supplied in response to a particular selection from the predefined feedback comments.
- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 further comprising, presenting the 106. selections to requestors in target languages associated with the requestors.
- (Previously Presented) The method of claim 102 wherein retaining further includes 107. receiving the selections from menu options selected by the users.
- (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium having instructions thereon that 108. when executed by a machine performs the method of:

presenting predefined feedback comments related to an online payment transaction between a buyer and a seller to the buyer at the request of the buyer and within a feedback forum;

receiving a particular predefined feedback comment from the buyer that is to be associated with the seller;

receiving a free-form comment from the buyer that is to be associated with the particular predefined feedback comment and the seller; and

retaining a buyer identifier, a seller identifier, a feedback comment identifier, a transaction identifier, and the free-form comment in a data structure associated with the seller, and wherein the seller can leave a response feedback comment in response to the predefined comment and free-form comment left by the buyer.

(Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 108 further including 109. instructions for receiving a response free-form comment from the seller made in response to the particular predefined feedback comment and the free-form comment and retaining the response free-form comment in the data structure.

instructions for removing the free-form comment and the response free-form comment when

either is determined to be against a policy.

111. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 110 further including

instructions for presenting the data structure when requested to do so by a requestor.

112. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 110 further including

instructions for presenting the data structure within an online auction facility when the seller

identifier is presented.

113. (Previously Presented) The computer-readable medium of claim 110 further including

instructions for linking the data structure to the seller identifier.

114. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a database; and

a server, wherein the database records associations for users of an online payment

transaction facility, each user having a plurality of associations and each association for each

user including an online transaction identifier, a seller identifier, a buyer identifier, and a

predefined and selected feedback comment, which is to be provided at the requests of the seller

or buyer and that is to be provided within a feedback forum, and wherein the server is to

maintain the database and the associations in connection with actions of the users using the

online payment facility, and wherein a response feedback comment can be made in response to

the selected feedback comment left by either the buyer or the seller.

115. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 114, wherein each association is to further

include a free-form comment supplied by a particular user associated with a particular online

transaction.

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(Previously Presented) The system of claim 115, wherein each association is to further 116. include a response free-form comment supplied by another user associated with the particular online transaction.

- (Previously Presented) The system of claim 115, wherein the server is to determine when 117. the free-form comment is permitted to be included with each association in response to an evaluation of a policy.
- (Previously Presented) The system of claim 114, wherein the server is to present the 118. associations when requested to do so by particular users of the online transaction facility.
- (Previously Presented) The system of claim 118, wherein the server is to present each 119. association in a target language of each particular user of the online transaction facility.